

# Disaster Assistance Appropriations Bill

## House File 64

*As amended by H-1001*

**Executive Summary Only**

Last Action:

**House  
Appropriations  
Committee**

January 22, 2009

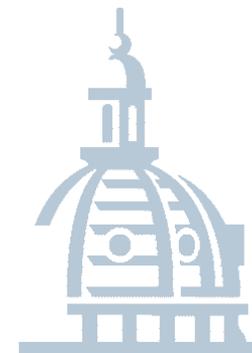
**An Act relating to disaster assistance by providing a jumpstart housing assistance program, disaster aid individual assistance grants, a rebuild Iowa office, and community disaster grants, making appropriations, and providing effective and retroactive applicability dates.**

## **NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS (NOBA)**

Available on line at <http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/noba/index.jsp>

Fiscal Services Division

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS**

**HOUSE FILE 64 AS AMENDED BY H-1001  
DISASTER ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATIONS BILL**

***HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS  
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT H-1001***

***BILL AS PASSED BY THE HOUSE  
REBUILD IOWA COMMITTEE  
FUNDING SUMMARY***

**JUMPSTART HOUSING  
ASSISTANCE**

- Strikes the statutory language creating the Jumpstart Housing Assistance Program and replaces it with Session law requiring the Iowa Finance Authority to adopt administrative rules for the Program using the same three priorities of eligible individuals.
- Replaces “150.0% of county median family income” with “150.0% of area median family income” for eligibility for the Jumpstart Housing Assistance Program.
- Adds an eligibility requirement for the Department of Human Services Disaster Aid Individual Assistance Grants that specifies the expenses reimbursed must be due to a natural disaster that occurred after May 24, 2008, and before August 14, 2008.
- Adds a retroactive clause to May 24, 2008 for the Disaster Aid Individual Assistance Grants.
- Adds the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship as a member of the Coordinating Council.
  
- Appropriates \$56.0 million from the Economic Emergency Fund to three Departments for disaster-related programs in FY 2009.
- Appropriates \$24.0 million to the Iowa Finance Authority for the Jumpstart Housing Assistance Program for forgivable loans for certain housing expenditures. Applies retroactively to September 1, 2008.
- Defines “eligible resident” as a person residing and owner of a disaster-affected home with a family income equal to or less than 150.0% of the county median family income and specifies three priorities for distribution:
  - First priority to eligible residents who have not yet received funds from the Jumpstart Housing Assistance Program prior to the effective date of the Bill.
  - Second priority to eligible residents who received less than \$24,999 from the Jumpstart Housing Assistance Program prior to the effective date of the Bill.
  - Third priority to eligible residents who have received \$24,999 from the Jumpstart Housing Assistance Program that continue to have unmet needs for certain housing expenditures.
- Permits the local government participants, as defined as specified cities and councils of governments based upon presidential disaster declarations to retain up to 3.0% of the funds for administrative costs.

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**JUMPSTART HOUSING  
ASSISTANCE (CONTINUED)**

- NOTE: The two major differences between the Jumpstart Housing Assistance Program created by the Governor's Executive Order and the changes to the Program in this Bill is an increase in income eligibility from 100.0% of the area median income to 150.0% of the county median income; and decreasing the permitted administrative costs from 5.0% of funds to 3.0% of funds. The 2008 area median income by county and family size is available at <http://www.iowalifechanging.com/jumpstart/downloads/2008-MFI.pdf>.

**DISASTER AID INDIVIDUAL  
ASSISTANCE GRANTS**

- Appropriates \$10.0 million to the Department of Human Services (DHS) for Disaster Aid Individual Assistance Grants.
- Specifies different criteria for the Disaster Aid Individual Grants compared to current statutory criteria by decreasing the maximum amount of grant from \$5,000 to \$2,500 per household and increasing eligibility criteria from 200.0% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to 300.0% of the FPL.
- Prohibits the DHS from using the funds for administrative costs.
- Permits residents in counties with presidential disaster declarations or governor State of disaster emergencies to be eligible for the Grants.
- NOTE: For 2008, 300.0% of the FPL for a family of four is an income of is \$63,600. The FPL for 2009 has not yet been issued by the federal Department of Health and Human Services. The 2008 FPL is available at <http://aspe.hhs.gov/POVERTY/08poverty.shtml> .

**COMMUNITY DISASTER GRANTS**

- Appropriates \$22.0 million to the Department of Management for community disaster grants to cities and counties.
- Specifies that the individual city and county awards are based upon the pro rata share of the total statewide damage between May 24, 2008, and August 14, 2008, as determined by the federal Emergency Management Agency as of January 1, 2009.
- Specifies the recipients and expenditures that are eligible for the funding.
- Prohibits the Department of Management and the grant recipients from using the funds for administrative costs.
- Requires a report from grant recipients regarding the allocation and uses of funds by January 1, 2010.

**REBUILD IOWA OFFICE**

- Creates a Rebuild Iowa Office to coordinate efforts for natural disasters between May 24, 2008, and August 14, 2008. Repeals the Office on June 30, 2011.
- Requires the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division to provide administrative support to the Office.
- Requires that the Office be administered by an Executive Director appointed by the Governor.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
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**HOUSE FILE 64 AS AMENDED BY H-1001  
DISASTER ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATIONS BILL**

REBUILD IOWA OFFICE  
(CONTINUED)

- Specifies the duties of the Office and establishes a Coordinating Council to facilitate communication between State agencies and the Office. Designates the membership of the Council.
- Requires the Office to submit a report on January 31, 2010, and January 31, 2011, regarding activities of the Office.

NONREVERSION OF FUNDS

- Permits the FY 2009 appropriations from the Economic Emergency Fund to carry forward into FY 2010.

EFFECTIVE DATES

- Specifies that each of the three Programs receiving funding from the Economic Emergency Fund and the appropriations for the Programs take effect upon enactment.

## Summary Data

### Other Funds

	Estimated FY 2009 (1)	Supp-House Appr FY 2009 (2)	FY 2009 EEF Supplemental vs. FY 2009 Estimated (3)
Unassigned Standings	\$ 0	\$ 56,000,000	\$ 56,000,000
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 56,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 56,000,000</b>

## Unassigned Standings

### Other Funds

	Estimated FY 2009 <u>(1)</u>	Supp-House Appr FY 2009 <u>(2)</u>	FY 2009 EEF Supplemental vs. FY 2009 Estimated <u>(3)</u>
<b><u>Iowa Finance Authority</u></b>			
<b>Iowa Finance Authority</b>			
Jumpstart Housing Assistance Program - EEF	\$ 0	\$ 24,000,000	\$ 24,000,000
<b>Total Iowa Finance Authority</b>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 24,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 24,000,000</u>
<b><u>Human Services, Dept. of</u></b>			
<b>General Administration</b>			
Disaster Aid Individual Assistance Grants - EEF	\$ 0	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 10,000,000
<b>Total Human Services, Dept. of</b>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 10,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 10,000,000</u>
<b><u>Management, Dept. of</u></b>			
<b>Management, Dept. of</b>			
Community Disaster Grants - EEF	\$ 0	\$ 22,000,000	\$ 22,000,000
<b>Total Management, Dept. of</b>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 22,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 22,000,000</u>
<b>Total Unassigned Standings</b>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 56,000,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 56,000,000</u></u>